

REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration in view of the amendments above and the remarks that follow.

As amended claim 51 is directed to a method of producing embryonic or stem-like cells. Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification, e.g., at page 11, lines 3-7 and page 68 , line 13 to page 69, line 15. None of these amendments adds new matter.

In the Office Communication, the Examiner states that Applicants' May 17, 2006 Amendment and Response to Office Action ("Amendment") is non-compliant because it allegedly only presents claims that are drawn to a non-elected invention. Specifically, the Examiner states that the elected group of claims (claims 1-17 and 32-45) are directed to a method of producing an unmodified and a genetically modified embryonic or stem-like cell and that claims 51-53, which were the only pending claims in the Amendment, are directed to a method for enhancing the efficiency of cross species nuclear transfer. According to the Examiner these two methods are patently distinct inventions.

Application No.: 10/070,719
Response dated September 7, 2006
Response to August 7, 2006 Office Communication

Applicants have amended claim 51-53 such that they are directed to a method of producing an embryonic or stem-like cell. Thus, these claims now read on the elected invention.



Application No.: 10/070,719
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections and grant allowance of the pending claims.

The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' representatives regarding any matter that may be handled by telephone to expedite allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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